

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, due to tornado warnings, my flight was diverted to Philadelphia, and I was unavoidably detained on September 24, 2001. As a result, I missed Recorded Votes #349 (H.R. 717, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Childhood Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2001), and #350 (H.J. Res. 65, Continuing Appropriations for FY2002).

I ask that the RECORD reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all of the above motions on September 24, 2001.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM ADAMS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the bravery and military service of William Adams, a great American who currently resides in Montrose, Colorado. William Adams learned very important lessons about life and death when he was faced with the challenges of self-preservation and patriotism in the South Pacific during WWII.

At the young age of nineteen, William Adams, along with the rest of his advance landing unit of the 4th Marines landed on Saipan. There he struggled through one of the bloodiest campaigns his Division had seen and finally took control of the small island. By the end of the battle, 3,400 American soldiers had lost their lives. William managed to survive several other battles including the invasions at Tarawa and Tinian. He finished his tours in the South Pacific having been wounded three times and being awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. William is a proud servant of his nation, exemplified by several accounts of bravery including putting his own life on the line to rescue a fellow soldier.

William is no longer the young man who landed the many shores of the Pacific Theater to defend freedom and liberty in the United States. Amidst all of the violence and death, William Adams returned to the United States although many of his friends did not. William now lives a peaceful life as a resident of Colorado but the sacrifices he made while serving our nation will never be forgotten. Mr. Adams fought selflessly for the ideals and protection of all Americans. He helped to ensure that our freedoms and way of life would live on. It is my pleasure to honor William Adams for the great sacrifices that he has made and assure him that his countrymen are grateful for his service.

SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of reauthorizing the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program. Continuing this program will encourage the development of small businesses and help strengthen our economy.

I have been a long time supporter of this program. It helps small businesses, including minority and women owned businesses, to participate in the research and development of new technologies. Various businesses in my district have benefitted from the STTR program as they work with the many research institutions and federal agencies located in the Washington region.

The STTR program has been successful since the launch of its pilot program in 1992. This success was recognized as funding for the pilot program was twice reauthorized in 1994 and 1996. Now, we can make this a permanent program and encourage participating agencies to implement outreach programs to small businesses and research institutions that will enhance the STTR program.

The STTR program has helped small businesses benefit the economy by encouraging technology innovations and job creation. This program has been credited for promoting collaborative efforts in research and development. Under this program, small businesses are exposed to the scientific knowledge available at our nation's research institutions. In addition, the STTR program helps move academic theories from research institutes to viable commercial use that benefit our nation and the world.

Furthermore, in a recent GAO report that examined 102 projects under the STTR program, companies and research institutions indicated that they felt both contributed significantly to the research and development of new technologies. Their collaborative effort contributed to the construction and testing of prototypes and in providing equipment and facilities. Most of these projects were successful. For those projects that were discontinued, companies indicated insufficient funding for further technical development as a basis for terminating their projects.

This piece of legislation, encourages the continued viability of the STTR program. The legislation increases the percentage of the extramural budget required to be expended by agencies participating in the program from 0.15 percent to 0.3 percent. The permanent nature of the program is acknowledged by striking the word 'pilot' as previously used to describe the program. Also, the amount a small business can receive under a Phase II award increases from \$500,000 to \$750,000, in line with the Phase II awards of the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program.

In addition, the legislation requires participating Federal agencies to collect and maintain information. This will allow for a quick oversight of the program's progress. Also, the information would be kept in similar databases

that agencies have already created to monitor the SBIR program.

By passing this legislation we will endorse a program that has been successful since 1992. The STTR program will ensure that the partnership between research institutions and small businesses, which adapts research technologies for commercial use, continues till at least 2008.

Therefore, I urge all members to support this legislation that encourages the development of small businesses and the continued cooperation between federal agencies and small businesses in the research and development of new technologies that benefit the nation.

GENE AUTRY DAY FESTIVAL IN TIOGA, TX

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the first annual Gene Autry Day Festival this weekend, September 28 and 29, 2001, in Tioga, Texas, in the Fourth Congressional District. Tioga is Gene Autry's hometown, and I join all those in Tioga and Grayson County, as well as friends and admirers throughout the Nation, in celebrating the life of this legendary American.

Gene Autry was born on a ranch near Tioga, Texas, on September 29, 1907, to Delbert and Elnora Autry. Gene's grandfather, William T. Autry, was a Baptist preacher who taught Gene to sing when he was five years old. At the age of twelve, Gene bought his first guitar from a Sears and Roebuck catalog for eight dollars. In his autobiography, *Back in the Saddle Again*, Gene noted that by his fifteenth birthday he was comfortable singing and performing before audiences at school and around his hometown.

At a young age, Gene began working as a telegraph operator at the old Tioga railroad depot, where he reportedly sang and played for local townsfolk and passengers on the railroad. By the late 1920s, Gene was working as a telegrapher for the railroad in Oklahoma. While singing and playing in the office one night, Gene was discovered by the great cowboy humorist, Will Rogers, who recommended that he try performing on the radio. And thus began a career that would span more than 60 years in the entertainment industry and that would bring fame and fortune to this young man from Tioga, Texas.

Gene Autry was successful in radio, recordings, motion pictures, television, rodeo, and live performances. He is the only entertainer to have five stars on Hollywood's Walk of Fame—one each for radio, records, film, television, and live theatrical performance, including rodeo. Gene appeared in 94 feature films and made 635 recordings, over 300 of which he wrote or co-wrote. Some of his best known movies are based on his hit records, including *South of the Border* and *Back in the Saddle*. He sold over 60 million records, including more than a dozen gold records and two platinum records, *Here Comes Santa Claus* and *Peter Cottontail*. Another record, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, remains the second best selling single of all time, with sales totaling more than 30 million. From 1950 to 1955